

## **TMDL Alternative – Category 5-alt Components**

Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act and Chapter 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 130 require states to develop total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for waters not meeting applicable water quality standards. Per 40 CFR §130.7(c)(1), TMDLs are to be written to meet water quality standards. In certain instances, implementation actions and other plans may result in attainment of water quality standards more quickly than can be achieved through the TMDL process. Plans demonstrating that water quality standards will be achieved, may serve as alternatives to a TMDL. Impairments addressed through TMDL alternatives will be subcategorized as Category 5-alt. Category 5-alt waters will remain on the 303(d) list of impaired waters, but will be considered low priority for TMDL development.

**Groups wishing to address a water quality impairment using an alternative approach should provide to the Department the following information:**

- 1. Description of the alternative approach to be used and how it is expected to result in attainment of water quality standards**
  - Identify any plan or combination of plans and actions that will serve as the TMDL alternative
  - Provide a copy of the plan or appropriate web links and citations
- 2. Identification of specific impaired water bodies and pollutants that are addressed by the alternative approach**
  - Identify water body names and ID
  - Identify impaired designated use
  - Identify pollutants causing impairment
  - Describe the severity of pollution
- 3. Identification of sources causing and contributing to the impairment**
  - Any suspected nonpoint sources contributing to the impairment may be described in terms of land use condition
  - Describe relative contributions expected from each source in relation to the cause of impairment
- 4. Description of the implementation strategy and an estimate or projection of the time when water quality standards will be met. Address point or nonpoint sources as necessary to attain water quality standards.**
  - Describe actions to be taken
  - Outline implementation timeline
  - Identify interim milestones
  - Provide project dates
  - Provide target dates for deliverables
  - Identify expected time for attainment of water quality standards

**5. Identification of available funding for implementation**

(Examples: low-interest loans from the State Revolving Fund, Clean Water Act Section 319 subgrants, Soil and Water Conservation Program cost-share incentives, etc.)

**6. Identification of all parties committed, and additional parties needed, to implement the alternative approach and their role in implementation**

(Examples: local governments, state or federal agencies, watershed groups, stream teams, regional councils of government, etc.).

**7. Plan for effectiveness monitoring and periodic evaluation to determine if plan is still expected to result in attainment of water quality standards more rapidly than pursuing development of a TMDL**

- Describe commitments to monitor and evaluate success of implemented actions
- Describe how progress and success will be demonstrated
- If an adaptive implementation approach is used, describe how new data will be used to inform and adjust implementation actions

**For more information call or write:**

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
Water Protection Program  
P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176  
800-361-4827 or 573-751-1300  
[tmdl@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:tmdl@dnr.mo.gov)

**Additional Information:**

Current and past 303(d) lists of impaired waters:  
[dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/waterquality/303d/303d.htm](http://dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/waterquality/303d/303d.htm)

Current TMDL prioritization and development schedule:  
[dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/tmdl/wpc-tmdl-progress.htm](http://dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/tmdl/wpc-tmdl-progress.htm)